

The Bamberg Herald

One Dollar and a Half a Year.

BAMBERG, S. C. THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1916.

Established 1891.

WILL MEET NEXT SATURDAY

DEMOCRATIC CLUBS ARE TO ELECT THEIR DELEGATES.

Under Revised Rules County Conventions Will Meet First Monday in May, State Convention May 17.

All the Democratic clubs in South Carolina meet on the fourth Saturday in April, which is the 22nd inst., to reorganize, elect delegates to the county convention and transact any other business.

It is in the club meeting that the individual citizen has a direct voice. It is a sort of mass meeting, or "town meeting," but it is within the Democratic party, subject to the strict rules of the party organization. Here may be offered resolutions expressive of the sentiment of the individual voter, or instructions for the delegates to the county convention.

Under the new rules, now enacted into law by the legislature, "no person shall be enrolled in any club, or take part in any club meeting, or vote in any primary, or be elected a delegate to the county convention, except in the club district in which he resides."

The county convention meets on the first Monday in May and is composed of one member for each 25 members or majority fraction thereof, in each club, according to the vote at the preceding first State primary election. This is a change from the old rule that gave representation for each 25 members carried on the roll of the club—which came to include much dead material—not only the actual "dead," but the persons moved away, whose names remained on the club lists because there was no procedure for revising the rolls.

The new basis of representation will considerably reduce the numbers in the county convention—which had come to be too unwieldy for effective parliamentary deliberation. It will reduce the number of delegates to be sent from the clubs, especially the city clubs, where the actual numbers could not be personally known to members and an unauthorized attempt to revise the rolls might erroneously cut off some one from his rightful membership. The reform of 1914 has insured equitable representation on the basis of the really active membership.

The State convention meets on the third Wednesday in May, the 17th, this year, and is composed of two delegates for each member of the general assembly from a county. Thus Bamberg has 6 delegates in the State convention.

Some of the matters likely to come before the clubs preparatory to action in the convention are: Indorsement of the administration of Woodrow Wilson; demand for rural credit legislation; indorsement of Senator E. D. Smith's amendment for the operation of a nitrate plant by the United States government for "preparedness" in war and for providing cheap fertilizers to the farmers in time of peace, and possibly expressions on the insurance situation.

Under the new rules there will be an enrollment of Democratic voters to be made over again for this year and to be closed 60 days before the August primary election.

Thirty-eight Horses Burned.

Early Friday morning the stables of Slater Bros. were discovered entirely covered with fire, and the huge wooden building burned rapidly. Thirty-eight horses and mules were burned as a result of the blaze, which was so quick that they could not be taken out in time to save them. From two o'clock until five the firemen remained on the scene, but at last entirely extinguished the fire.

During the progress of the fire some of the best work ever pulled off by the fire department was exercised in order to save nearby buildings which took fire as a result of the severe heat and sparks flying in all directions. The bottling plant of S. H. Crum, the residences of Police Sergeant Frankling, A. H. Marchant and Julian A. Salley were all set afire at different times during the progress of the fire. No serious damage was done any of these, although about one-third of the bottling plant's roof was destroyed.

The loss was heavy upon the firm of Slater Bros., and it is not known exactly what insurance they carried. —Times and Democrat.

A wasp on a window may be killed almost instantaneously by the application of a little sweet oil on the tip of a feather.

MCCORMICK COUNTY STANDS.

Supreme Court Upholds Validity of Its Creation.

Columbia, April 13.—The election providing for the establishment of McCormick county was declared by an en banc session of the supreme court to have been legally held. There are now 45 counties in South Carolina, the new unit having been recognized by an act of the last legislature.

The en banc session of the supreme court was attended by a large number of advocates of the new county.

The new unit will be made up from Edgefield, Abbeville and Greenwood counties.

The new county movement has been carried after a fight extending over a period of 20 years.

Citizens of the new county are making arrangements for a celebration at McCormick today. Yesterday they extended an invitation to Governor Manning to attend the celebration. The governor was forced to decline because of several engagements in Columbia.

The election was held last year. An appeal was taken to the State board of canvassers and the election was declared to have been legally held. Then the case was carried on to the supreme court. After hearing the arguments and giving the matter much consideration, the five justices of the supreme court failed to agree and the circuit judges of the State were called to their assistance.

In 1905 an election was held and carried by a majority of four to one in favor of McCormick county, but the opponents won out in the courts because the required area was lacking. At another election in 1914 the new county agitators won by a vote of six to one, but for the second time it was set aside by the courts. The last in 1915 won out by a big majority.

McCormick, the county seat of the new county, is located on the Charleston and Western Carolina railway, 43 miles above Augusta and 25 miles from Abbeville, Greenwood and Edgefield.

Georgia Girl First in Eugenics.

Atlanta, Ga., April 13.—A Georgia girl is the first person to enroll in the eugenics registry, which has just been instituted by the National Conference on Race Betterment, according to reports received here. Her name is Miss Sue Myrick, and she hails from the classic town of Milledgeville. Miss Myrick is a student in a physical culture school in Battle Creek, Mich., and is a firm believer in the theory of practical eugenics.

The eugenics registry will include a list of human thoroughbreds—men and women who measure up to a very high standard of mental and physical perfection. Miss Myrick is said to be a beautiful girl and a great athlete.

The National Conference on Race Betterment has proposed, by popularizing the registry, to encourage a broad interest in matters of health and thus upbuild an aristocracy of health in the United States.

PEACH CROP INJURED.

Clemson Authorities Believe 80 Per Cent. of Trees Affected.

Greenville, April 15.—Reports received by Clemson college authorities from all parts of the State indicate that about 80 per cent. of the South Carolina peach crop has been ruined by the severe frosts early this week. The apple and cherry crop escaped damage. The report came to this city through A. H. Chapman, county demonstration agent, who has just returned from a trip to Clemson.

YOUTH FATALLY INJURED.

Jumped From Automobile and Fractured Skull.

Laurens, April 12.—Ralph Knox, the 10-year-old son of Stiles H. Knox, a furniture dealer of this city, was fatally injured in an automobile accident this afternoon, shortly after 2 o'clock, death ensuing two hours later.

The lad was going from school to his home on South Harper street, with a party of other school children in a car. Ralph and another boy were riding on the running board. As the car reached the Knox home the driver slowed up, but before the machine was brought to a standstill the Knox youth jumped off and fell backwards on the pavement, his skull being fractured by the impact and he received other bruises on his body.

The body will be taken to Seneca tomorrow for burial, Seneca being the former home of the family.

IN THE PALMETTO STATE

SOME OCCURRENCES OF VARIOUS KINDS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

State News Boiled Down for Quick Reading.—Paragraphs About Men and Happenings.

Fire in the American National bank building in Spartanburg Friday did \$1,500 property damage.

The South Carolina Intercollegiate Oratorical contest is to be held in Lander college, Greenwood, Friday.

Morris Kantrok, a Jewish salesman, was arrested in Greenville last week on the charge of white slavery.

The Bailey Military Institute, of Greenwood is to hold its annual spring encampment at Florence this year.

The Southern railway has let contracts for the double tracking of the main line between Central, S. C., and Cornelias, Ga.

The cornerstone for a new \$40,000 high school building to be erected in Orangeburg was laid with beautiful ceremonies Friday.

The Winnsboro district conference, colored, of the African Methodist Episcopal church, was held in Spartanburg last week.

William C. Redfield, secretary of the interior in President Wilson's cabinet, paid an unofficial visit to Beaufort last week.

Fire Friday afternoon destroyed the kiln of the Penn-Sumter Lumber company at Sumter destroying property valued at \$6,000.

Dr. C. E. Lowe, of the Rockefeller sanitary commission, New York, has been elected director of the public health of Spartanburg.

A negro school building which was burned in Florence some time ago is to be rebuilt within the next few weeks at a cost of \$25,000.

Dr. Henry Miller, former pastor of Pendleton street Baptist church in Greenville, died last week in Louisville, Ky. He was 49 years of age.

Sixteen houses inhabited by operatives of the Woodside mills, Greenville, were destroyed by fire Friday. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

Governor Manning has commuted the death sentence of A. C. Tolbert, of Greenwood, who was convicted of the murder of his wife, to life imprisonment.

Robbers entered the home of V. M. Montgomery in Spartanburg Thursday night and stole money and jewelry valued at several hundred dollars. There is no clue to the identity of the robbers.

The supreme court has reversed the action of the lower court in sentencing George W. Rish, of Lexington county, to life imprisonment following his conviction of murder with recommendation to mercy.

C. P. Sims, of Spartanburg, has been re-admitted to the practice of law in South Carolina by the supreme court. He was indefinitely suspended by an order filed in April, 1914. The order re-instating him was signed by all the justices of the supreme court.

Governor Manning has reprieved Joe Grant, an Edgefield county negro, who is under sentence of death for the murder of a white man until Monday, May 15th. The governor took this action in order that he might have time to more fully investigate Grant's case.

POWDER PLANT WRECKED.

Three Killed When 4,000 Kegs of Powder Explode.

Bluefields, W. Va., April 12.—Three persons were killed, one perhaps fatally injured and two others less seriously hurt as the result of the explosion of 4,000 kegs of powder at the Nemours plant of the Dupont Powder company, eight miles from here early today. The plant was almost destroyed, with a loss of about \$100,000.

Howard Mathena, a glazier, had just entered the glazing shop and was blown to pieces. Calvin Butts, a watchman, was so seriously injured that he may not recover. George and Roy Crawford were asleep in their home almost a mile from the mill, and were crushed to death under a great rock blown through the roof by the force of the blast. Two other persons in the village were injured by falling debris. The sites of the plant buildings are marked by great holes. Officials are unable to assign any cause.

The undersea origin of chalk is indicated by the presence of minute sea shells which are revealed by the microscope.

INSURANCE FOR COTTON MILLS.

Reported Textile Concerns Will Get About Half Million Dollars.

Greenville, April 12.—The Parker Cotton Mills company will profit to the extent of \$500,000 through the death of Lewis W. Parker, organizer of the company and its president until November, 1914. Mr. Parker carried life insurance in a number of companies, naming the Parker Cotton Mills company as his beneficiary. The total amount of the policies being, according to a very reliable authority, \$500,000. Mr. Parker took out this insurance about four years ago. The company has been paying the premiums. Mr. Parker was given a very rigid physical examination and passed it very successfully. There was at that time no indication of the cancerous growth in his jaw, which developed only about two years later, and which resulted in his death here Tuesday morning.

In addition to the insurance for the Parker Cotton Mills company it is understood that Mr. Parker carried several hundred thousand personal insurance.

SHERIFF'S DOG KILLED.

But He Continues Hunt for Escaped Richland Convicts.

Lexington, April 12.—Sheriff Miller was out all night and part of the morning helping the Richland county authorities in the chase of the three convicts who escaped in Columbia yesterday afternoon by overpowering the guard. Sheriff Miller regrets very much that his splendid young blood hound was killed, but this did not deter the Lexington officer in his course after the men. The dog was one of the best young man trailers in the country, and was leading the pack at the time he was shot down. Sheriff Miller is of the opinion that had not the dog been killed or if the Columbia parties would have permitted their dogs to continue on the trail of the men after the leading dog was shot, the men would have been captured. Sheriff Miller stated today that he intended setting him another dog as soon as possible.

SIXTH ESCAPE PLAN FAILS.

Discovery of German Spy's Plan to Break Jail.

New York, April 15.—Two keepers guarding Ignatius T. T. Lincoln, self-confessed German spy, in the Raymond street jail, Brooklyn, have been dismissed for alleged complicity in plans made by Lincoln to make another escape, it was announced today by Commissioner Lewis, of the department of corrections. Lincoln, who is in jail awaiting federal court decision on the matter of an application for his extradition to England on a charge of forgery, escaped from jail some time ago and was recaptured. He boasted that he would escape again.

The two keepers dismissed are Thos. W. Danbeck and Michael G. Keating, who were given a trial by Commissioner Lewis on charges based on a confession made by Lincoln. The attempt was to be made on April 1.

Lincoln's plans provided that "a well known gang leader" was to be in charge of the jail delivery. This leader and another man were to come to the prison at night in the guise of federal officers with a prisoner. Six confederates were to be concealed inside and as the keeper opened the door these men were to cover him with revolvers, bind and gag him.

Other keepers were then to be called into the warden's office separately and bound and gagged. The last keeper called was to have been compelled to open the cells.

Commissioner Lewis said that Lincoln's latest plan was the sixth he had made while in prison.

To the gang leader Lincoln promised "an easy job where you can clean up at least \$4,000."

Who Taught Miss Keller?

At present disloyalty founded upon ignorance meets with more attention than it deserves. Why, after all, should 2,000 people assemble in New York to hear Miss Helen Keller say that, in the event of invasion, the American workman "has nothing to lose but his chains?" He has his manhood to lose, and it should mean as much to him as to any millionaire in the land. What new and debilitating doctrine is this which holds that personal honor is the exclusive attribute of wealth, and that a laborer has no more business with it than has a dog!—Agnes Repplier, in the Atlantic.

ENTERS THE NINTH WEEK

GIGANTIC BATTLE OF VERDUN CONTINUES UNABATED.

Losses Estimated at 350,000 Men. 280,000 Men Used as Reinforcements.

The most gigantic conflict in the history of the world, the battle of Verdun, has entered upon its ninth week. It is in many respects without precedent. The enormous scale of the German preparations and execution of the attack, the unparalleled concentration of artillery and the sustained ferocity of the fighting mark the battle as one of the greatest efforts of the war.

The French Keystone of Defense.

Verdun has been rated as one of the strongest fortresses of Europe, a corner-stone of the French defenses against Germany. The evolution of military tactics during the war, however, and particularly the employment by the Germans of long-range howitzers capable of reducing the greatest forts, have done much to change the character of the Verdun campaign as compared with the earlier conceptions of what such a struggle might be. Before the battle opened, the French partly dismantled their forts around Verdun and here, as elsewhere, on the various fronts chief reliance for resistance was placed on an elaborate system of trenches.

Loss of About 350,000 Men.

In no previous battle were the losses so high as those which have been estimated in the fighting around Verdun. These estimates, however, can not be regarded as conclusive evidence, for neither Germany nor France has announced its own casualties. The French war office has declared the Germans have lost 200,000 in killed, wounded and captured. The Germans state semi-officially that the French casualties number 150,000 killed and wounded and that 36,000 unwounded French prisoners have been taken. If these estimates are approximately correct, nearly 400,000 men have been eliminated as fighting units.

The ground occupied by the Germans after 56 days of offensive operations may be roughly calculated as 100 square miles. They have forced back the French from their outlying positions to their definite line of resistance along the semi-circular front from the edge of the Argonne eastward across the Meuse and southward into the Woëvre. For the most part this main line has withstood the shock of successive attacks. The Germans captured Fort Douaumont early in the campaign and have bitten into French defenses at Dead Man's Hill and elsewhere, but at no point have they succeeded in breaking through.

Used 280,000 as Reinforcements.

The Verdun drive was begun on February 21st by the German army under Crown Prince Frederick William. The Germans are reported to have brought up seven army corps or about 280,000 men, to reinforce the troops which had been in service there, and subsequently, according to French accounts, other large bodies of reserves were called in. After an unparalleled artillery bombardment, the infantry attack was launched. An unofficial French estimate placed the number of attacking Germans in some sectors at 17,600 men to the linear mile.

With the first ten days of battle the French lost Haumont, Samogneux, Brabant, Ornes, Beaumont, Chambrettes, Marmont, Cotelate, Champneuville and numerous outer positions, including villages, woods, heights and fortified farms, together with the fortified works of Hardaumont, Dieppe, Fromezey, Baucourt, and most important of all, Fort Douaumont. These positions lie east of the Meuse and north and northeast of Verdun.

Fighting continued intermittently northeast of Verdun during the third week, centering in the struggle for the possession of Fort Vaux. In this week the Germans captured Fresnes, 12 miles southeast of Verdun, making a three-mile advance in this section.

Meanwhile a new phase of the battle had developed west of the Meuse. With batteries spaced, according to German correspondents, scarcely 100 yards apart, the violent artillery attacks were made against Dead Man's Hill, preceding the long-expected offensive from the northwest.

Forges, near Dead Man's Hill, was captured early in the third week, after an infantry assault along a front less than three miles long. Positions south of Forges changed hands frequently during the following days.

TRIO OF SUSPECTS TAKEN.

Had Maps of Fortifications on South Atlantic Coast.

Savannah, Ga., April 18.—Three strange men, said to be Germans, but whose names could not be learned, were arrested today at Hardeville, S. C., at the instigation of Lieut. A. P. Cronkhite, United States engineer corps, who suspected them of espionage, according to long distance telephone messages received here from Lieut. Cronkhite. A search of the prisoners' clothing, it was said, revealed the fact that they were in possession of maps, giving minute details of fortifications and roads along this section of the coast, and that they carried an elaborate photographic camera.

A charge of vagrancy, on which the men were taken into custody, was changed to a charge of being suspicious characters when each of the three produced \$5,000 to disprove vagrancy charges.

Lieut. Cronkhite, in charge of a detachment from company B, of the fort battalion, United States engineer corps, has been engaged for several weeks in making military maps and gathering other data along the South Atlantic coast that would be of value in the event of war.

According to reports, the three foreigners have been following the detachment since it left Savannah, working toward Charleston, some time ago. The documents found on them, it was said, would be of value to foreign governments should they become involved in war with the United States.

Lieut. Cronkhite reported the arrests to his superior officer here, Col. Wm. C. Langfett, by telephone. Col. Langfett was unable to say tonight where the prisoners would be arraigned.

Many Lonely Eves.

San Francisco, April 11.—When the steamer Chehalis sailed into a cove at Tahiti some time ago Tahitian maidens swam out and besought the sailors to desert their ship and live there. Most of the men of Tahiti have gone to the European war, and it has become an "Adamless Eden." Passengers arriving here on the steamer Moana brought the story.

The reports of the New York police department show that 1,831 persons outside the city and 4,035 living in the city were reported missing last year. Nearly all of them were found by the police or returned home of their own accord.

MERCHANT FOUND GUILTY.

Was Accused of Concealing Bankrupt Assets.

Greenville, April 13.—John C. Langley, an aged merchant of Calhoun Falls, who was trailed over three States and arrested, and who was on trial in federal court here for three days on charges of concealing bankrupt assets, this afternoon was found guilty with recommendation to mercy. His daughter is to be arraigned on an indictment of conspiracy in connection with the bankruptcy. Langley said that he was advised by his attorney to leave until his daughter was tried. Others may be involved in later developments, said an official today.

March 31st, the capture of Malancourt was accomplished after fierce night attacks. The Germans had now occupied all the French positions north of Forges Brook, between Harcourt and Bethincourt and had materially advanced and strengthened their battle line in the northwest. New batteries were moved up and the infantry was rested and reorganized for the next attack.

On the forty-sixth day of the battle the Germans announced the capture of Haucourt, about three miles northwest of Dead Man's Hill, which formed a supporting point of the French left wing. From it a large section of the French line and fortifications could be taken under German fire, including Bethincourt. This village then became the objective point. The French admitted the evacuation of the Bethincourt salient two days later, stating it was a premeditated move designed to straighten out the battle line.

On Saturday of last week the Germans undertook a general onslaught along a thirteen-mile front both west and east of the Meuse from the Haucourt-Bethincourt sector to Douaumont. A high French military official alluded to this movement as "an attack on the largest scale since the beginning of the offensive."